Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I ask you, did not the Inspector ask for sanction to take criminal action against the Manager?

Mr. C. Matthai.—I doubt it.

President.—In such a matter, say you want notice.

Mr. C. Matthai.—I want notice.

English as an optional subject in Malayalam Schools.

256. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to order the Director of Public Instruction to make English an optional subject in all Malayalam Schools in the State, in view of the fact that an elementary knowledge in English has become of great use to all classes of people in the State?

Mr. C. Matthai.—The Code Revision Committee recommended the introduction of English as an optional subject in all Malayalam Schools, but the Government, for reasons set out in their order passed on the report of the said Committee, did not accept the said recommendation. No occasion subsequently arose for a reconsideration of the matter, and there was in fact no reconsideration. As matters stand at present, the Government are unable to issue the order referred to.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—May I know whether the Government have any objection to give sanction to any particular school, if they request for the introduction of English as an optional subject?

President.—The question has to be considered in all its aspects.

Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Only after consideration, the reply can be given?

President.—Yes.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—During the last budget session the Director of Public Instruction said that there would be no objection.

President.—Did you say so?

Mr. C. Matthai.—No, Sir.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What was the difficulty in introducing English as an optional subject in the Malayalam Schools?

President.—You speak from memory and not after reference.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I do remember the matter. It was I who raised that point.

President.—Did you refresh your memory by now looking into the printed Proceedings?

Mr. A. B. Salem.—No, Sir.

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